

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:
 - establishing a session with a server computer;
 - receiving a set of instructions and data directed to providing graphics testing from the server computer;
 - creating a virtual channel to the server computer; and
 - transferring graphics testing information through the virtual channel.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the establishing comprises receiving a request from the server computer.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the establishing comprises receiving a request to the server computer to establish the session.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the set of instructions and data comprises a dynamic link library for use by a test tool to transfer graphics testing, wherein the test tool resides on the server computer.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the test tool is a series of tests that are part of a test application program resident on the server computer.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the creating comprises forming the virtual channel through a wide area network.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the creating comprises forming the virtual channel through the Internet.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the creating the virtual channel
2 comprises registering a unique virtual channel identifier with the server computer.

3 9. The method of claim 1 wherein:
4 the transferring graphics testing information comprises executing individual
5 tests in a list of tests prior to succeeding tests in the list of tests; and further
6 comprising timing each of the tests and storing times of each of the tests.

7 10. The method of claim 1 further comprising timing the establishing the
8 session.

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10 11. The method of claim 1 further comprising logging off the session
11 with the server computer and timing the logging off.

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13 12. A personal computer configured to perform the method of claim 1.

14 13. A method comprising:
15 establishing a session with a remote client computer;
16 storing a set of instructions and data directed to graphics testing applicable
17 to the remote client computer in a registry;
18 sending the set of instructions and data directed to graphics testing to the
19 remote client computer; and
20 creating a virtual channel with the remote client computer through which
21 information related to the graphics testing is transferred.

22 14. The method of claim 13 wherein the establishing comprises
23 receiving a request from the remote client computer.

1 15. The method of claim 13 wherein the establishing comprises sending
2 a request to the remote client computer.

3 16. The method of claim 13 wherein the storing the set of instructions
4 and data comprises loading a dynamic link library which is used by a resident test
5 tool to send the information.

6 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the test tool is series of tests that
7 are part of a resident test application program.

8 18. The method of claim 17 further comprising timing each of the tests.
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10 19. The method of claim 13 wherein the creating comprises forming the
11 virtual channel through a wide area network.
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13 20. The method of claim 13 wherein the creating comprises forming the
14 virtual channel through the Internet.
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16 21. The method of claim 13 further comprising timing how long
17 information related to graphics testing is sent to the remote client computer.
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19 22. The method of claim 13 further comprising timing the establishing
20 the session.

21 23. A server computer configured to perform the method of claim 13.
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23 24. A computer comprising:
24 means for receiving graphics tests from a test tool resident on a server
25 computer;

1 means for facilitating receipt of the graphics tests on the computer by the
2 remote test tool; and

3 means for timing the graphics tests as received from the server computer.

4 25. The computer of claim 24 wherein the instructions and data
5 comprise a dynamic link library.

6 26. The computer of claim 24 wherein the means for facilitating
7 transmission of graphics testing information comprises establishing a virtual
8 channel is through a wide area network.

9 27. The computer of claim 24 wherein the means for facilitating
10 transmission of graphics testing information comprises establishing a virtual
11 channel is through the Internet.

12 28. A server computer comprising:
13 means for accessing a remote client computer;
14 means for storing instructions and data used by a test tool to provide testing
15 to the remote client computer;
16 means for identifying particular instructions and data used for the remote
17 client computer;
18 means for setting up a virtual channel between the server computer ; and
19 means for timing the tests performed by the test tool through the virtual
20 channel.

21 29. The server computer of claim 28 wherein the instructions and data
22 comprise a dynamic link library.
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1 30. The server computer of claim 28 wherein the means for setting up
2 the virtual channel is performed over a wide area network.

3 31. The server computer of claim 28 wherein the means for setting up
4 the virtual channel is performed over the Internet.

5 32. A computer comprising:
6 a memory;
7 a processor coupled to the memory; and
8 instructions stored in the memory and executable on the processor to access
9 a test tool resident on a server computer, and perform testing using the test tool
10 through a communication channel.

11 33. The computer of claim 32 wherein the test tool relates to graphics
12 testing.

13 34. The computer of claim 32 wherein the communication channel is a
14 virtual channel.

15 35. The computer of claim 32 wherein the instructions comprise a
16 dynamic link library.

17 36. The computer of claim 32 wherein the instructions further time tests
18 as received from the test tool and store times for each of the tests.

19 37. A computer comprising:
20 a memory;
21 processor; and
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1 a memory to store instructions executable on the processor to access a
2 remote client computer; and transmit testing information from a resident test tool
3 through a communication channel.

4 38. The computer of claim 37 wherein the communication channel is a
5 virtual channel.

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7 39. The computer of claim 37 wherein the instructions comprise a
8 dynamic link library.

9 40. The computer of claim 37 wherein the test tool relates to graphics
10 testing.

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12 41. The computer of claim 37 wherein the instructions further time test
13 as sent from the test tool and store times of each test.

14 42. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable
15 instructions for performing steps comprising:

16 contacting a server computer to send instructions and data used to access a
17 test tool in the server computer;

18 setting up a virtual channel in which testing information is received from
19 the test tool; and

20 determining the beginning and ending of individual tests represented by the
21 testing information.

22 43. The computer-readable medium of claim 42 further wherein the
23 computer-executable instructions for performing steps further comprise timing the
24 testing.

1 44. The computer-readable medium of claim 43 wherein the computer-
2 executable instructions for performing steps further comprise storing times of the
3 individual tests.

4 45. A computing device comprising:
5 a processor configured to initiate a session with a remote client computing
6 device;
7 a memory module configured to store a dynamic link library in a register,
8 wherein the dynamic link library is directed to send information regarding a
9 graphics test to a remote computer;
10 an interface to send the dynamic link library to the remote client computing
11 device through a network.

12 46. The computing device of claim 45 wherein the network comprises a
13 virtual channel between the computing device and the remote client computing
14 device.

15 47. A system comprising:
16 one or more remote client computers; and
17 a server computer configured to identify software modules used to provide
18 graphical tests through a communication channel directed to particular remote
19 client computers, wherein the software modules are used to provide the graphical
20 tests.

21 48. The system of claim 47 wherein the communication channel is a
22 virtual channel.
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